

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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LESSON FOR SEPTEMBER 6

THE GREAT COMMANDMENTS.

LESSON TEXT—Mark 12:28-34.
GOLDEN TEXT—"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." Luke 10:27.

This lesson considers a third question asked of our Lord; two others in this connection we studied last week. It was not so much a question of placing one commandment in competition with another, but rather which commandment most clearly epitomizes or reveals the final principle in law. It was the business of this scribe to know the law and to interpret the commandments. Jesus in his reply quotes from Deut. 5:4, and from Lev. 19:18, which are both in a sense an exposition of the Decalogue.

Love the Basis.

I. The answer of Jesus, vv. 28-34. The scribe's question seemed to be quite specific and so the Lord strikes at once at the heart and by his quotation reveals to us the fact that the principle which is the inspiration of the law is that of love. In passing we have here another illustration of the master's ready use and knowledge of the Scripture. Jesus makes a fourfold summary. Man must love God with (a) the heart, e. g., in sincerity and uprightness; (b) with the soul, with the warmth of the emotions, and the feelings; (c) "with all thy mind," the intellect, not as a blind devotee; (d) with "strength," viz., with intensity of service, with energy. "To love God with all the heart and soul and mind and strength is to have supreme desire for and delight in God's glory, making everything else second to that." This statement is but half, for the complement of our love of God is to love man. Man created in God's image was "so loved" by God that he gave his son (John 3:16); man can do not less and must express that love in service to others. To fail in the first is to break the greatest of the commandments and therefore to be guilty of all. Rom. 7:23. Notice the order is not man then God, but God first. First in business, in social life, in pleasure, in everything, and not to do so is sin. The similarity of these two is in that the same principle of love governs in both cases. From I John 4:20, 21, it would seem that the second is really involved in the first. If we love God whom we have not seen we must love men whom we have seen and who are made in the image and likeness of God. This scribe readily saw that spiritual worship is the very essence of the answer of Christ. This is also the teaching of the Old Testament; see I Samuel 15:22. Church going, palm singing, saying prayers, or even reading the Bible are not a substitute for love, either to God or man. We are justified in God's sight by our faith but in the sight of man by our works. Many who profess to be Christians do not seem to manifest as clear a moral and spiritual discernment as this scribe for they place a greater emphasis upon doing rather than being, upon works rather than upon service. Worship and service must go hand in hand. As this scribe recognized this truth he confessed his recognition with candor and earnestness.

Human and Deity.

II. The question of Jesus, vv. 35-37. Our Lord's question in return was a Messianic one and he grounds his argument on the 110th Psalm, a Messianic one. Jesus is inferior to David as his son according to the flesh but superior to him as lord of the kingdom of which David himself is a subject and not the sovereign. Christ is both human and deity; his kingdom is spiritual and earthly sovereigns are honored if they are his subjects.

III. The teaching of Jesus, vv. 38-40. The word "doctrine" in verse 38 is translated "teaching" in the revision. These words of warning are full of solemn significance. The scribe, and they have their imitators today, sought the places of preferment, the seats of honor in the synagogue and the chief places at the feasts. The motive that governed them was a selfish one. They devoured widows' houses, and sought to cover their covetousness and dishonesty by long prayers and a pretense of piety. This brought upon them the "greater condemnation," Matt. 23:23. Law and love is here again in contrast. Law must become life.

IV. The view of Jesus, vv. 41-44. Jesus had one look of love and compassion for his friends and the needy and another that was exceedingly terrible for his enemies. Thus it was as a master teacher that he saw right at hand an illustration for his lesson, an application of the truth in the case of the widow who gave out of her penny and because of her love for God, supporting these carping, selfish scribes. She had two mites (about fourth-fifths of a cent) and might have withheld one except that the rabbis forbade the offering of a single one. Her love, however, went beyond the "tenth" and she gave "all," therefore in proportion to their means she "cast more than they all," see II Cor. 8:12. Offerings are needed still for the Lord's work. Jesus is "over against the treasure" and "sees" who it is that "casts in" how much they cast and the motive behind the gift. The master's standard of a commendable offering is not according to our superfluity, but our deficiency, not what will be missed but what of sacrifice and in proportion thereto. Not to please man, but God. Read II Cor. 8:13. Our Lord's valuation of gifts cast into the treasury remains for all time the true standard of measurement.

AFRO-AMERICAN CULLINGS

Since the Southern Baptist convention adjourned, the joint committees of the Southern Baptist convention and the National Baptist convention have held two meetings, both at Memphis, Tenn. Of these meetings, Dr. T. J. Searcy, of the Metropolitan Baptist church, and representing the committee of the National Baptist convention, has been the chairman; and Dr. O. L. Hailey, of Corsicana, Tex., representing the Southern Baptist convention, has been secretary. Our last session was held on July 3. There were present from the Southern Baptist convention committee: Dr. E. Y. Mullins, Dr. O. L. Hailey, Dr. B. F. Riley, Dr. Ben Cox and Hon. W. E. Atkinson.

From the National Baptist convention there were present of their committee: Dr. T. J. Searcy, the chairman; Dr. E. C. Morris, president of the convention; Dr. S. E. Griggs, the corresponding secretary of their educational board; Dr. J. H. Henderson and Dr. J. D. Gresham. Wm. Haynes held proxy for Dr. E. J. Fisher, E. C. Morris for Booker T. Washington and S. E. Griggs for J. W. Bailey. So we had a good representation from both conventions.

Memphis, Nashville, New Orleans and Little Rock were represented in applications for the location of the negro theological seminary. New Orleans was not directly asking for it, but honored brethren who are interested presented a request that we consider it. Little Rock would have made a more definite offer, perhaps, if other cities had not been specially named. Louisville and Birmingham had no specific propositions. Both Nashville and Memphis made good offers, and through their representatives indicated their several advantages. Dr. Rufus W. Weaver came to speak for Nashville, and Dr. T. O. Fuller for Memphis. Other brethren freely discussed the two places and their several strong features. The committee sought carefully to give each place proper consideration.

But we unanimously decided in favor of Memphis, Tenn. They had made an offer which was in matter of financial inducements, the equal of Nashville. The principle upon which we decided to locate the seminary, "Where it could do the greatest good to the largest number," led the committee to decide in favor of Memphis.

Then the committee from the Southern Baptist convention, to whom was committed the whole question of raising the \$50,000 for the seminary, decided to ask Dr. B. F. Riley of Birmingham, Ala., to do that. And he has agreed to undertake the matter. We authorize him to fix the amount at \$50,000 so as to cover the whole expense of raising the money, and provide for any failure on the part of subscribers. Dr. Riley will acquaint the denomination with his plans. And we earnestly bespeak the most cordial reception and hearty co-operation in the undertaking.

E. Y. MULLINS, Chairman.
O. L. HAILEY, Secretary.

For the Southern Baptist convention committee.

Old rumors still obtain in the British navy, among them that which forbids the health of the king to be drunk aboard ship while standing up. They always drink the health of the king sitting in the British navy and are very proud of the difference between them and their comrades of the land service.

Throughout their course at Hampton Institute, negro and Indian girls are taught the elements of arithmetic, English, agriculture, history, as well as scientific housekeeping, physiology, cooking and sewing, and the principles of teaching.

Almost eight thousand young men, and women, including 1,200 Indians, have already gone from Hampton Institute into the South and West, equipped in body, mind and heart to help their races get land, build better homes, schools and churches, and improve social and economic conditions. Many of the Hampton students have literally reconstructed in many places the existing community life and have brought prosperity to men and women by helping them increase their earning power, and showing them how to use to the best advantage the resources at their doors.

For 46 years under the efficient leadership of Gen. Sampel C. Armstrong and Dr. Hollis B. Frissell, Hampton Institute has been training boys and girls for safe and sane leadership in business, in home-making, in improving church, home and school life throughout the South and West.

A shipbuilding slip is maintained in connection with the high school in San Pedro, Cal., where, under the practical instruction of a nautical architect, the students learn how to build a boat, make and place the engine and launch and run the craft.

W. F. Passett, who has done more than any other man to make the dahlia one of New Jersey's most extensive and profitable crops, has been raising this flower for more than seventy years. He is now eighty-eight years old.

Dangerous Hiccoughs.

Two unusual cases of suffering through hiccoughs are reported. In one, a man had an attack of hiccoughs which lasted for nine days before he obtained relief. A little girl had a much worse attack, which lasted between three and four months, and was the result of a fright. Doctors had been unable to cure the paroxysms, and many times it was thought the child would die. She had wasted away alarmingly, and hope for her recovery was abandoned.

"The ballot is placed in the hands of an American citizen for the protection of his rights, and the negro as a citizen must contend for everything that is given him, but he will find that he has many friends," were the words of Prof. William Pickens, in addressing the national convention of Congregational church workers at Washington.

The convention opened with song and prayer service and a short talk by President A. Lawless, Jr., of New Orleans. A short business session was held, in which the amended constitution and by-laws were adopted. Rev. H. H. Dunn of New Orleans, La., followed with a discussion on "Superintendency." He called attention to the growing work in the southern states, and declared that it was necessary to have a competent and well-prepared man to superintend it.

Judge Robert Terrell addressed the convention and called attention to the necessity of the negro turning attention to his own interest in this country.

At the close of his address Rev. Dr. Garner of Plymouth Congregational church introduced a resolution, which passed, appointing a committee consisting of Rev. De Berry of Springfield, Mass.; H. H. Proctor of Atlanta, Ga., and Eugene Lawrence of Chicago, to draft a memorial to the senate asking for the confirmation of Judge Terrell.

Revs. B. F. Watson, secretary of the Church Extension Society of the A. M. E. church, and L. N. Ross, pastor of Metropolitan A. M. E. church, Washington, made short addresses, as did Prof. T. S. Inboden, Brick Normal and Industrial college, Enfield, N. C.; Zeph P. Moore, Washington; J. C. Napier, Nashville, Tenn.; F. F. Sims, Beaufort, N. C.; A. C. Garner, Washington; George W. Moore, Nashville, Tenn.; Harold M. Kingsley, secretary college extension department, Austin, Tex.

It was decided to hold biennial sessions in the future.

Liberia, its aims and prospects were toasted at a banquet given at New York in honor of Hon. John Lewis Morris, secretary of the treasury for Liberia. The function was arranged by a committee of prominent colored citizens, headed by Rev. Dr. W. H. Brooks, and was given in St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal church.

The affair was largely attended. Dr. Booker T. Washington, who has shown a deep interest in the welfare of the little West African republic, was unable to be present and sent a letter of regret.

Charles W. Anderson, collector of internal revenue for the Wall street district, was toastmaster. Among those who responded to toasts were Fred R. Moore, editor of the New York Age and former American minister to Liberia; Dr. Ernest Lyon of Baltimore, the Liberian consul general to the United States; Dr. John H. Reed, principal of the Caroline Donovan Institute, Liberia, and Rev. Dr. Brooks.

Secretary Morris, in responding to the many good things said about his country, praised the colored people for the progress they are making and declared that he was grateful for the way in which he had been received here.

Large deposits of radium ore have been discovered in the Perganda district of Russian Turkestan.

Three hundred men and women attended the eighth annual session of the Grand Lodge of Modern Wood Choppers, at Houston, Tex.

"If the negro would climb, or mount to anything, he must help himself," declared the sovereign commander, Prof. W. E. Johnson of Bonham, "and he must not expect others to do for him what he should do for himself. We are opposed to idlers, grumblers, fault-finders, but we are holding up the men who are willing to do something and who will do something; all others must get out of the way."

"We have here today men and women who are not ashamed to work. Men and women who stand for Christian manhood and womanhood, and those who believe in the possibilities of the South. We are willing that we should go to the farm if we can only find protection of life and property there, and good schools for the education of our children. We are no longer willing to permit our children to grow up in ignorance."

Of the seventeen serious accidents to submarines in the last ten years 11 have occurred to British vessels.

The meteorological service of Russia finds itself in the position, rare in the experience of European scientific institutions, of having ample funds for its present needs and future development, thanks to a liberal increase in its budget recently authorized by the government.

The mileage of railways operated in India was 32,520 in 1912 and 33,509 in 1913, showing an increase of 989 miles.

The public service of France utilizes 155,028 women in various capacities.

But a short time ago she had a violent attack of coughing. Her mother gave her cold tea and lemon. The coughing stopped. Everybody waited anxiously expecting the hiccoughing to return. But it did not.

The Reason He Does Not.
"I am quite sure that I can stop drinking when I have had enough."
"But you never seem to do it."
"I know I. You see, the trouble is that when I have had enough I don't know it."

On the Day He Celebrates



LIKE the man who faces what he must
With step triumphant and a heart of cheer;
Who fights the daily battle without fear;
Sees his hopes fail, yet keeps unflinching trust
That God is God—that somehow, true and just
His plans work out for mortals; not a tear
Is shed when fortune, which the world holds dear,
Falls from his grasp—better, with love, a crust
Than living in dishonor; envies not.
Nor loses faith in man; but does his best,
Nor ever murmurs at his humbler lot;
But, with a smile and words of hope, gives zest
To every toiler. He alone is great
Who by a life heroic conquers fate.

—Sarah Knowles Balton in the Illustrated Sunday Magazine.

BENEFITS OF UNION

Enumeration of the Valuable Features of the Labor Organizations.

Protective and Fraternal in Their Scope, They Are of Inestimable Worth to Every Man Who Has the Honor to Be Attached.

THE different benefits which are presented to the members of labor unions were admirably set forth a short time ago in an article printed in the Cigarmakers' Journal.

"There is no law limiting the scope of trade unions," says the article, "neither is there any artificial barrier to check their usefulness, growth and development. The scope of a trade union, as constituted at present, embraces many valuable features."

"It is a protective organization. It raises wages and prevents reduction; it equalizes wages for equal work performed; it endeavors to secure a living to all; it establishes a minimum wage for common work; it restricts cut-throat and unfair competition."

"It is a fraternal association. It sympathizes with the sick and the afflicted and the unemployed by the payment of stipulated benefits; in cases of distress the help is of a substantial nature."

"It is an insurance society. The operating insurance in cases of death and total disability is superior and

more wholesome than the insurance of the workers, whose day is celebrated this September 7, are keeping all human society. It is admitted that there must be a fair wage for a fair day's work, but both ends of the maxim are insisted on—that the man who gets a million must work for it, just as the man who gets his two or three or four dollars a day works for it."

Believe in the Trade Union. By contrast with the growth in the ranks of the labor unions the entire strength of avowedly revolutionary organizations, in this country, is extremely small. It is evident that the great mass of the wage-workers of America are still wary of movements which have nothing to show that can compare with the services the old-line unions have rendered the men and women who live by the labor of their hands.

Finer Instincts Always There. This is an industrial nation. The pursuits of commerce may sometimes momentarily obscure the finer instincts of our people, but the body of American industry is a fine-grained thing after all. And nowhere does it show to greater advantage than in the relaxations of the first Monday in September.

Dignity of Labor Recognized. The dignity of labor has never required assertion in the United States, for Americans as a class deem labor their heritage. "What does he do?" is the American man's instinctive inquiry about any stranger. If he does nothing he is justly open to suspicion.

LABOR day emphasizes the obligation of service for every man and woman throughout the land.

George W. Perkins.
President International Cigarmakers' Union.

less costly than the rates charged by the ordinary insurance company; it is mutual, safe and economical.

"It is a savings bank. The trade union enables the worker to deposit weekly small sums of money in the shape of dues and assessments, which are returned to him when most needed."

"It is a legislative body. It plans, adopts and amends a constitution and by-laws without any interference and advice from outside parties. There is no conflict of interest of any appreciable extent; local differences can be adjusted in the interest of the general welfare, viewed from a broad standpoint."

"It is a direct legislative league. The initiative and the referendum, which are the cardinal features in the structure of the constitution, enable a small number of unions to propose amendments and substitutes. They are submitted to a referendum vote,

Haiti, Island of Intrigue

ALTHOUGH it is only three days' steaming from the American coast, Haiti is probably less known to Americans than Albania. Any school geography will tell you that Haiti is a mountainous island situated between Cuba and Porto Rico and almost within sight of both, with an area of about 28,000 square miles and divided into two unequal parts. The southern two-thirds of the island comprise the republic of Santo Domingo, with a highly mixed population—the negro element predominating—of about 700,000, while the northern third is Haiti, which, despite its smaller area, has a population of more than 1,500,000, almost entirely negro. The social distinctions in the populations of the two republics are caused by the fact that the Santo Domingans are Spanish by language and whatever civilization they possess, while the Haitians derive their fundamental ideas, governmental forms, literature and language from France.

The Horrible Example. The island of Haiti—by which is meant the entire island—has frequently been held up as the best example of bad government in our times. Strictly speaking, this is true. But to blame it entirely upon the fact that the Haitians are black men is scarcely fair. The responsibility is to be traced back to colonial days. Haiti was colonized with African slaves by the French several hundred years ago, and the one idea of the masters of the island was to make all they possibly could out of it, regardless of the suffering they inflicted upon their work-

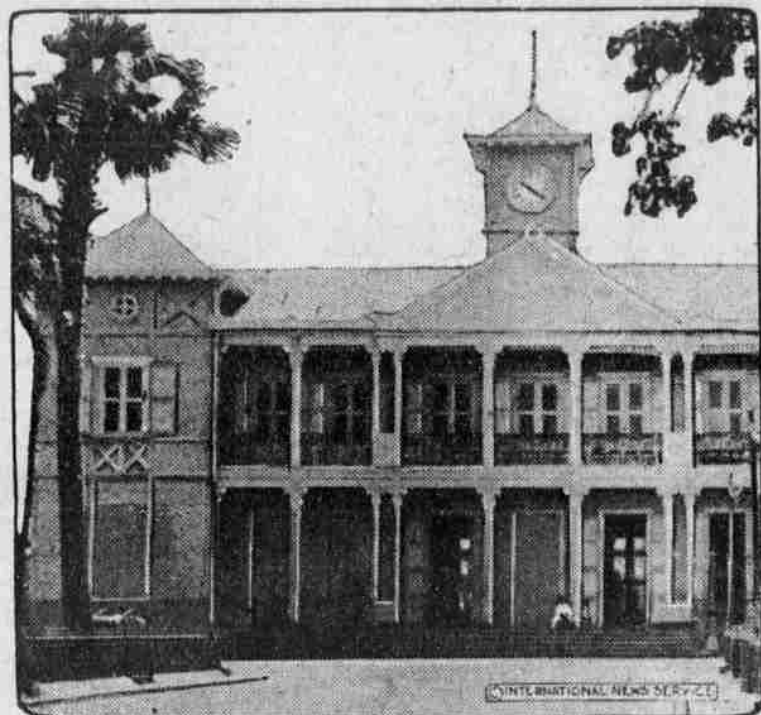
men. They made it a paradise of creole culture; a network of fine roads linked up the stately plantation houses with each other; Port au Prince, the capital, was one of the most imposing cities of the Caribbean, well laid out, solidly built. The output of the island was probably larger than it is today. But underneath the outward well-being and luxury was a terrible state of human misery and degradation.

The French revolution came, and the thunder-shock which shook so many quarters of the world roused more than echoes in far-away Haiti. Toussaint l'Ouverture—one of the grandest characters produced by any race in the eighteenth century, yet an ordinary black man, a slave and the son of slaves, with what little education he possessed self-taught—Toussaint l'Ouverture took charge of the revolt of the slaves. He transformed bands of rioters into an army, and it is to be said to his lasting credit that he waged a warfare more merciful than that of his white opponents. But when the French found that they could not defeat him, they employed trickery, lured him aboard a man-of-war, and carried him off to Europe, where he died of pneumonia in the cold air of the Alps.

After that, and considering the fact that the French broke their treaties right and left—proclaimed the abolition of slavery in 1793 and restored it ten years later—and that LeClerc, whom Napoleon sent over with 30,000 men in 1803, showed no quarter to the negroes, it is hardly surprising that such bloodthirsty monsters as Dessalines succeeded to the mild and equitable leadership of Toussaint. What the Haitians could not accomplish in open warfare against their white foes, yellow fever and the torrid climate accomplished for them. In two years the French lost 40,000 men, and but 8,000 surrendered to the English fleet that co-operated with the ragged army of Dessalines.

From this period begins the history of Haitian independence. Truth to tell, it is anything but a pleasant history, one long succession of revolutions and blood-stained dictators, varied by tyrants who proclaimed themselves emperors and set up fantastic nobilities, with all the trappings of European courts. Haiti had never really known the white man's civilization, it must be remembered. The slaves were kept ignorant by their masters, because it was argued that in this condition they were less formidable; and the French system of slavery in Haiti has been described as the most brutal in the Western hemisphere—far more brutal, even, than the Spanish system which obtained in the southern portion of the island. This is testified to today by the difference in moral tone still perceptible in the two races, brought up side by side.

Haiti today has a population probably slightly in excess of 2,000,000. It is held by scientists to be the richest island in natural resources and fertility of soil in the entire world, with the exception of Java. The similarity of the two islands is striking. Both are tropical, both have much the same physical formation, even the climates



PRESIDENT'S PALACE, PORT AU PRINCE

are not unlike. Java, with its dependent islands, however, has an area less than twice that of Haiti; but under Dutch rule it supports a population of 31,000,000, which is constantly increasing—and observers are not inclined to regard the Dutch system of colonial administration as an unmitigated blessing.

Some Monumental Architecture. The truth of the matter is that the people of Java are mildly industrious, where the people of Haiti are almost uniformly shiftless. The Dutch have built up an export trade and have promoted agriculture. Scientific agriculture in Haiti is practically unknown. The peasant scratches the marvelous soil with a stick, drops his seed and lets it be until his crop has grown up. "Why should anything else be done?" he asks, in reply to the stranger's inquiry. "If anything else was necessary God would do it."

In the Haitian mountains rich minerals and the best mahogany in the world lie unworked for lack of railroads to haul the products to the coast.

Any one who is skeptical of what these people can accomplish should visit the enduring architectural monuments of the island—the marvelous fairy palace of Sans Souci in the northern hills near Cape Haitien, and the tremendous citadel of La Ferriere on the top of the mountain of that name, 5,000 feet high—both of them the work of the black King Henri Christophe, who ruled Haiti from 1811 until he committed suicide in 1819, in order to avert assassination.

Atavism in Dogs. Dogs, probably the earliest of domesticated animals, when transferred to a tropical country, such as central Africa, lose in a few generations most of the characteristics they have acquired in Europe, and revert more and more to the type of the jackal and the wolf. Then their ears, whatever their breed, tend to become pointed, their coats turn sandy or rufous and their bark becomes a howl. Some attempt has been made to show that this is the result of disease and resembles the effect of malaria on the human constitution. Yet the Egyptian dog of Pharaonic times possessed, as is seen by the monuments, these very characteristics; and as he was certainly domesticated before the European animal, it is probable that these are original features of the race.

Bull-Fight Tragedies. Bull fights as Madrid have been marked by two tragedies recently, one of them a very unusual character. During an exhibition by amateurs a bull which had been severely wounded by a torador was writhing in agony

when a matador approached to attack it with a short sword. In his struggles the wounded animal knocked the sword out of the matador's hand and sent it flying over into the public enclosure, where it struck a spectator in the chest, killing him on the spot. The victim of the second tragedy was Miguel Freg, the Mexican torador, who was overtaken in the ring and gored by a bull. He died in the hospital shortly afterward.

Owned a Hatchet. "Who is your favorite character in history, Tommy?" "George Washington, sir." "Why George Washington?" "Because he's the only character in history I ever read about who seems to have had any fun when he was small."

Another Malady. "I'm afraid I'm getting tango toe," remarked the frivolous person. "That isn't the worst," commented the heartless acquaintance. "When you try to sing your voice sounds as if you were getting a phonograph face."